



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, May 12, 2014, 6:00 PM Clarendon County Council Chambers

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Vice Chairman, W.J. Frierson, Sr.
Councilman, Billy G. Richardson
Councilman, Benton Blakely
Councilman, AC English
County Administrator, David W. Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Press in attendance: Bobby Baker, The Manning Times, Sharron Haley, Clarendon Citizen

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Lee & Connie Bledsoe	Gregory Holliday	Cynthia B. Mack
Nancy Cave	Rose Wilder	John Tindal	Connie Dennis
Stan Nickell	Renee Jeffcoat	Tammy Rodvansky	Patricia Pringle
Vastine Johnson	Johnny Lawson	Bessie Leonard	Gregory Holliday
Loretta Pollard	Linda Lemon	Vickie Williams	Cathy Williams
And others Citizens of Clarendon County			

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Councilman Richardson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. Councilman Blakely thanked everyone for their calls and cards during the passing of his mother.

I. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Meeting, which was held on April 14, 2014 with minor corrections.

II. Board Appointments

Chairman Stewart stated that the Disabilities and Special Needs Board is asking Council to reappoint the following members to the Board for another four-year term: Al Gibbons, George Strickland, Connie Gamble, Nelson Walker, Paul Floyd, Bobbie Reaves, and Tina Huggins.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to reappoint the above members to the Clarendon County Disabilities and Special Needs Board for another four-year term.

III. Proclamations

1. On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a Proclamation declaring May 17-23, 2014, as National Safe Boating Week.

2. On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a Proclamation proclaiming May 2014, as Mental Health Month.

IV. Transportation Committee

Chairman Stewart called the Transportation Committee meeting to order at 6:09 pm.

1. Administrator Epperson presented Council with the 2014, 2015, and 2016 schedule of Road Projects. He stated that when compiling the list, we try to get a road in each district. Administrator Epperson stated that there are new roads that need to be approved and added to the list. He continued by stating that the 2013 road project is completed and the 2014 road project is scheduled to begin in September (based on funding).

Administrator Epperson stated that the total estimated cost for the 2014 Road Project is \$852,000. He continued by stating that the following roads are scheduled for paving in 2014: Joyce Road, Clubhouse Road, Lizzie Creek, Redfern Road, Dove Lane, Denwood, Cassie Lynn, Farmstead Road, Birch Haven, Wallace Road, and the Summerton Fire Station Drive and Parking Lot.

Administrator Epperson stated that the total estimated cost for the 2015 Road Project is \$861,500. He further stated that the following roads are scheduled for paving in 2015: Brogdon Road, Boston Wells Road, Welsh Poppy Circle, Maggie Lane, Joseph Rogers Blvd, the New DSS Building Parking Lot, Joseph Rogers Blvd, Manning Sidewalks, Manning Parking lot behind City Hall, and Commerce Drive and Richburg Road.

Administrator Epperson concluded by stating that the total estimated cost for the 2016 Road Project is \$669,375. He further stated that the following roads are scheduled for paving in 2016: Church Road, Deal Street, Middle Drive, Chester Drive, McDuffie Street, Bethlehem Road, Doc Naomi Road, Burdell Drive, Blackwell Drive, Timberline Lane, Parker Road, and Arlen Road.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Schedule of Road Projects for 2014, 2015, and 2016 presented by Administrator Epperson for the Transportation Committee.

2. Administrator Epperson presented Council with a request to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 presented by Administrator Epperson for the Transportation Committee.

Chairman Stewart stated that the transportation committee meeting is closed. The Transportation Committee meeting closed at 6:18 pm.

V. Public Hearing for the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant Application

Chairman Stewart opened the Public Hearing for the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant at 6:19 PM.

- Ms. Vickie Williams, Grant Coordinator, stated that this grant would be used to purchase security for the Magistrate / Family Court Room.
- Administrator Epperson stated that the Circuit Judge is requesting that the security be improved in the Magistrate / Family Court Room. He further stated that Panic Buttons and Video Equipment were requested for the Court Room.

Chairman Stewart stated that if there were no other comments, the public hearing would close. The public hearing closed at 6:21 pm.

VI. Request

Ms. Vickie Williams, Grants Coordinator, presented Council with a request for approval to submit an application for the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant. She stated that the grant would be used to purchase security equipment for the Magistrate / Family Court room. Ms. Williams concluded by stating that the application has to be submitted by June 10, 2014.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request of Ms. Vickie Williams, giving her authorization to submit an application for the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant.

VII. Presentation of Proposed FY2014-2015 Budget

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, began his presentation by stating that our challenge continues to be the ability to maintain quality services for our citizens while still maintaining our Fiscal health. He continued by stating that we are only projecting a slight revenue growth. Mr. Anthony continued by encouraging the Citizens of Clarendon County to speak to our local government officials in reference to the Local Government Fund.

Mr. Anthony stated that as of the second reading, our budget has a deficit of \$73,997 and we still have work to do in order to have a balanced budget. He continued by stating that for several years, the county utilized a Community Grants Mechanism for appropriating funds to Clarendon County Agencies. Mr. Anthony stated that this year's work group included the following members: Chairman Dwight Stewart, Councilman A.C. English, Administrator David Epperson, Mr. Thomas Harvin, Ms. Nancy Clark, and Mr. Lyndon Anthony. He further stated that the county received 14 requests from County Agencies totaling a little over \$677,000 and the work group made a recommendation of \$250,000 to be distributed as follows:

• The American Red Cross	\$ 5,000
• Clarendon County First Steps	\$ 3,500
• Central Carolina Technical College	\$119,250
• Clarendon County Adult Education	\$ 28,000
• Behavioral Health Services	\$ 17,500
• Council on Aging	\$ 5,000
• Clarendon Soil & Water Conservation	\$ 28,000
• Clemson Extension	\$ 33,750
• Paxville Community Development	\$ 5,000
• Santee Wateree RTA	\$ 5,000

Mr. Anthony Concluded his presentation by stating that this budget contains a Tax Anticipation Note of \$2,000,000, a \$70,000 transfer to the Weldon Auditorium Budget from the Hospitality Taxes and a 2% cost of living increase for Clarendon County Employees.

1. **Dr. Tim Hardee**, *President of Central Carolina*, began by stating that CCTC has 4,200 students enrolled this school year with 51 of the students now being registered Nurses. He continued by stating that there were 583 graduates for 2014. Dr. Hardee further stated that 500 of the students enrolled are from Clarendon County with an average age of 27. He concluded by stating that out of the 400 employees employed by Continental Tires, 50 of the employees are Clarendon County Residents.

Councilman English commended Dr. Hardee on the work that he is doing at CCTC.

2. **Dr. Rose Wilder**, Superintendent of Clarendon School District One, began by recognizing Clarendon One School Board members that were present. She continued by stating that Scott's Branch High School is one of two New Tech. Schools in the State of South Carolina. Dr. Wilder concluded by stating that Scott's Branch High School has a 10th grade student name Harold Morrow, who scored 29 on his American College Testing (ACT) and the highest score that you can get on an ACT is 36.

Ms. Renee Jeffcoat, Director of Finance, began her presentation by asking Council for a Millage increase of 1.82. She concluded by requesting the utilization of a tax anticipation note, not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Councilman Richardson thanked Dr. Wilder and District One for everything that they are doing.

3. **Mr. John Tindal**, Superintendent of Clarendon School District Two, began his presentation by recognizing Mr. Stan Nickel, Board Member of Clarendon School District Two. He continued by stating that District Two was one of several schools that received a \$25,000,000 Race to the Top Grant. He stated that each school would be receiving six million dollars. He further stated that District Two has 3,000 students in the district.

Mrs. Kathy Williams, Finance Director, began her presentation by asking Council for a Millage increase from 127.4 to 129.3 mills based on the millage cap increase of 1.46%. She concluded her presentation by stating that Clarendon Two will not be requesting a Tax Anticipation Note for the 2014/2015 Budget Year.

Vice Chairman Frierson and Councilman English thanked Mr. Tindal and District Two for the work that they are doing.

4. **Dr. Connie Dennis**, Superintendent of Clarendon School District Three, began her presentation by recognizing Mr. Mike Jackson, of Clarendon School District Three. She continued by stating that \$654,700 in scholarships were offered to the 2014 senior class. She further stated that Council needs to take a hard look at District Three because more Industries are needed. Dr. Dennis stated that with the limited amount of revenue that School District Three receives from the State, District Three cannot provide basic technology. She further stated that School District Three has gone without an Art and a Music Class for four years. Dr. Dennis concluded by stating that she was speaking from her heart and she thanked Council for what they are doing and she is happy for what Districts One and Two are doing.

Councilman Blakely thanked Dr. Dennis for the information and he stated that School District Three is not on an equal playing field with Districts One and Two. He continued by stating that Districts One, Two, and Three are all one County, Clarendon County, and we have to work together as a county and not as an individual district.

Chairman Stewart stated that each school district received a portion of the funds from District 40 and County Council is aware of the situation in Clarendon School District Three.

VIII. Public Hearing for Ordinance 2014-01

Chairman Stewart opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2014-01, An Ordinance to provide for a levy of taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014, and Ending June 30, 2015, to direct the expenditures of said taxes and other funds for Clarendon County, and to provide for other matters related thereto including the Administrative Accountability Procedures to be followed during implementation of the budget (Operating and Capital) for Clarendon County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014, and Ending June 30, 2015. The Public Hearing opened at 7:34 PM.

Chairman Stewart asked if there were any comments on Ordinance 2014-01. He stated that if there were no comments, the Public Hearing will close. The Public Hearing closed at 7:35 PM.

IX. Ordinance 2014-01

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2014-01, An Ordinance to provide for a levy of taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014, and Ending June 30, 2015, to direct

the expenditures of said taxes and other funds for Clarendon County, and to provide for other matters related thereto including the Administrative Accountability Procedures to be followed during implementation of the budget (Operating and Capital) for Clarendon County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014, and Ending June 30, 2015, and to include the following requests:

- Clarendon School District One – 126.32 Operating Millage, \$6,555,406 Total Revenue, and a tax anticipation note not to exceed \$1,000,000
- Clarendon School District Two – 129.3 Operating Millage, \$17,667,248 Total Revenue, and no tax anticipation note.
- Clarendon School District Three - 277.5 Operating Millage and Total Revenue of \$7,838.506.

X. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, began his report by stating that for the first ten months of the Fiscal Year, the General Fund Expenditures were \$15,553,411. He stated that Revenue was not available. Mr. Anthony continued by stating that we are on target with the budget.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$546,149 and total Operating Expenses of \$364,613 for the month ending April 30, 2014. He further stated that after Depreciation, Interest Expenses, and Transfers, Water and Sewer had a Net Income of \$136,411.

Mr. Anthony further stated that Weldon had total revenue of \$77,511 and total expenses of \$230,705. He further stated that the Weldon Auditorium had a deficit of \$38,194 after transfers.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the C Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$478,724 as of March 2014.

XI. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by thanking the organizers of Relay for Life. He stated that with the baked goods and yard sales, we raised \$10,300 for Relay for Life. He further stated that our goal is \$12,000 for Relay for Life.

Administrator Epperson continued by thanking the Chamber of Commerce and the Weldon Staff for the Taste of Weldon. He concluded by stating that both events were very good.

XII. Chairman's Report

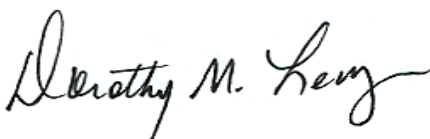
Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for the hard work on Relay for Life. He concluded by stating that the Regional Transportation Committee of the Council of Governments recommended as one of the priorities that a traffic light be placed on I-95 and Hwy. 261. Chairman Stewart further stated that after the 30-day period for public comments, the Council of Government (COG) would vote on the list. He concluded by stating that the vote will take place in August.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the council meeting. The Council Meeting ended at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

